

January 16, 2025

Honourable Adrian Dix Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions and Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Dix:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions and Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs at a critical time for our province. Serving as a member of the executive council is a privilege and responsibility which I am confident you will fulfill with integrity and a commitment to the people of our province.

British Columbians have trusted us with a mandate to deliver for them in ways that make a tangible difference in their daily lives. They expect us to listen and learn from people of different perspectives – and work together to make things better for everyone.

Specifically, we will tackle the challenges people worry about at the kitchen table:

- Grow the economy by creating good jobs across British Columbia. We will
 collaborate with businesses, workers, and communities to attract investments in
 both new and traditional sectors as well as emerging sectors of the economy. This
 approach will bring certainty for business, security for workers, and generate the
 wealth needed to support the essential services British Columbians rely on.
- Reduce costs for families including by helping people access homes they can
 afford through support for first-time homebuyers, increasing the supply of rental
 housing stock, and stronger measures to crack down on housing speculation.

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- **Strengthen health care** by expanding access to family doctors and recruiting and training more health professionals, ensuring that every British Columbian can access the care they need, no matter where they live. We will also increase access to addictions treatment and provide help for people whose struggles require intensive supports.
- Make our neighbourhoods and communities safer by working with law enforcement and social agencies to address street disorder, crack down on organized crime, and do all we can to ensure repeat offenders stay behind bars.

Our commitment to take action on climate change remains foundational and will be key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples. Advancing reconciliation, implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and working in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests is the responsibility of every Minister.

Over this mandate I expect you to prioritize making progress on the following:

- In order to protect key services that British Columbians rely on, work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, grow the economy, and help keep costs low for British Columbians. This is important in the context of current Provincial budget constraints, our climate targets, and the threat of American tariffs.
- Develop ways to ensure costs for energy remain low for people, including through access to home energy retrofits and innovative technology solutions.
- Work with BC Hydro, First Nations, and the renewable power industry through frequent competitive calls for power to increase and diversify BC's generation of electricity as the economy continues to grow.
- Help grow the profitability and success of our clean and low-carbon energy sectors by ensuring engagement and collaboration between business stakeholders and government policy makers, with particular focus on:
 - advocating against proposed tariffs from the United States and ensuring continued expansion of our energy export programs for the mutual success of British Columbians and our trading partners;
 - expanding global markets for our products to diversify and reduce trade risk; and,
 - o preparing contingency plans for direct and indirect support of energy exporters, including BC Hydro, in the event the tariffs are imposed.

- Work with relevant ministries, First Nations, other governments, project
 proponents, and key stakeholders to dramatically accelerate permit approval for
 clean and low-carbon energy infrastructure across the province while preserving
 our world-leading environmental standards.
- Work with the federal government to cap emissions from the oil and gas sector
 while attracting investment from producers that use best-in-class emissions
 reduction technology, create jobs for local workers, and build partnerships with
 First Nations.
- Ensure BC Hydro is responsive to changing market conditions and demands for large load capacity from potential local and international investors to grow our economy and reduce our emissions while protecting residential ratepayers.
- Identify innovative ways to help us meet our carbon emission goals in a manner that reduces cost burdens for BC families and businesses, grows our economy, and positions us for trade diversification and expansion in light of growing global economic and political instability and supply chain cost inflation.

As you are aware, we have established an accord with the BC Green Caucus that supports our shared commitment to ensuring stable governance focused on delivering progress and tangible outcomes for British Columbians. The commitments in that accord complement the direction in these mandate letters.

As a Cabinet, we will uphold the highest standards of ethics, collaboration, and good conduct in service of the public, and as a Minister of the Crown, you are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister and the public servants under their direction, who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. Your Minister's Office must meet the highest standards for integrity and provide a respectful, rewarding environment for all staff.

The work we have ahead takes place in a profoundly challenging geopolitical environment. Close friends and neighbours to our south are contemplating imposing draconian tariffs on our products that would hurt both Americans and Canadians. Our allies internationally face governmental instability. Hate and racism are on the rise around the world. Artificial intelligence breakthroughs with unclear implications and astonishing potential are announced daily. Global inflation, snarled supply chains, and war are threatening global economic growth and prosperity as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy.

We have an obligation to protect and defend British Columbians, as well as seize opportunities, in these uncertain times.

The good news is that we have everything we need to succeed, and we will succeed. British Columbia's people – our workers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, artists, and innovators – are among the most talented in the world. We are home to world-class educational institutions and public services. Our natural beauty is unmatched, we have internationally envied resources, and we are one of the most diverse places on the planet. Your job is to help us leverage these advantages in perilous times.

Use this mandate letter to guide your work, and do not be afraid to challenge assumptions, or be innovative, bold and aggressive in achieving the goals set out for you and your Ministry by the people of this province.

Thank you for joining me in the work ahead.

Sincerely,

David Eby, KC

Premier